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CHEERS for the living, tears for the dead.—General O'Brien.

A FEW more chapters from Dr. Cushing's letter book will be served up at an early day.

DR. MILLER wants to take his straight democratic hereafter, but the democrats don't want any Dr. Miller in their.

THE Chilians are even carrying off the rails from the Peruvian railroads. The Chilians seem to be natural born bank cashiers.

THAT wasn't much of a shower Tuesday, but Thurston and myself got caught outside of our "citizens' water proofs."—Frank Walters.

SAN FRANCISCO is shaken up by the president's veto of the anti-Chinese bill almost as much as if they had been visited by one of those periodical earthquakes.

By the way, what has become of the five thousand oppressed and downtrodden women of Omaha that failed to put in an appearance at the polls on election day.

NEW YORK is waging an earnest fight in favor of caucus reform bills. The demand for a thorough reform of our primaries is spreading with a rapidity which shows the urgent necessity for such a movement.

OF course farming in New Jersey is not the best diplomatic school, but Secretary Frelinghuysen ought to have known better than to publish secret instructions at the most critical moment in the Peru-Chili negotiations.

WITH the appointment of Richard T. Merrick, the charge of partisanship in the star route trials fades entirely away. Mr. Merrick is a democratic lawyer of great ability, and Brady, Dorsey & Co. have no cause for congratulation over his appointment.

DURING March the immigration to this country was 44,000, or nearly double the number which arrived in the same month last year. The waves of immigration promise to beat with still greater violence upon our eastern coast line, and the United States has room enough for all.

THE Washington Star thinks that the great political contest of the present season will be over the admission of Dakota. Two new republican senators and an additional republican senator are enough prospective evils to induce a united democratic opposition to the measure.

SENATORS Logan and Cameron are held responsible by many democratic papers for the prospective dismissal of Secretary Kirkwood. "These two stalwarts," they foolishly say, "first coaxed, then threatened, but it was no use," and now they expect that Senator Teller will cut a wide swath as soon as he is installed in Farmer Kirkwood's chair.

THE New York Tribune characterizes [as] a most dangerous and wicked form of practical treason the attempt of South Carolina to nullify the national election laws. No republican, no democratic politician, it says, could hold up his head for a week in any city of the north, justifying such crimes as have been perpetrated in that state.

THE Omaha bricklayers' union has come into possession of the \$50 star route contribution which Hascall had placed on deposit at THE BEE office. Now let Hascall give them an order on Miller and Brooks for the bundle of greenbacks that created such a sudden change of sentiment in the Herald and Republican about those star route cases.

APPROPRIATION bills aggregating 17,357,000 have been handed in by congressmen from thirty-seven states, Nebraska being the only exception to the rule. New York state heads the list with a request of \$3,150,000, and many of her congressmen are yet to be heard from. Texas stands next in amount, and would like \$1,525,000; Kentucky next with "an immediate need" of \$1,150,000, while Michigan asks for only \$1,025,000. Pennsylvania is good for \$1,005,000.

A SIGNAL VICTORY.

The workmen of Omaha have won a signal victory through the ballot box. They have routed the combined efforts of corporate monopoly, who were massed against them, regardless of party. This is, however, not a triumph of rioters and communists over law and order, but a vindication of the principle that this is a government by the people, for the people and not a government of corporate monopoly, for corporate monopoly.

The moral effect of such a victory can hardly be estimated. The positions contested for were of comparatively minor importance. But the fact that the workmen and business men have exercised their privilege as voters regardless of the threats and dictation of corporation henchmen affords a guarantee that this community refuses to disfranchise itself. There is a double victory for the workmen in this signal defeat of Hascall, who had conspired by trickery and the use of money to divide and destroy them.

The outcome of the contest has shown that the split among workmen was simply Hascall and a small gang of his hired men on one side and the workmen on the other.

And now that the victory is won, let us assure the taxpayers, and especially the business men of Omaha that there is no plot here to overthrow good government; that the workmen who have shown such moderation in all their trials since Omaha was occupied by the troops have no disposition to fetter the growth of this city and no desire to antagonize capital where it is employed legitimately. All they ask is that the machinery of government shall be conducted for the whole people, and not for the few; that taxes be imposed upon all classes of property and all classes of citizens alike; that the courts shall dispense justice but not persecution. As long as these are the objects to be achieved all good citizens, whatever their occupation may be, should rejoice with the working people.

THE ARMY RETIREMENT BILL.

The house of representatives having passed the army appropriation bill with the attendant clause providing for the retirement of officers, the measure goes up to the senate for the approval of that body. The bill ought to pass in the form in which it is handed up from the house. The absence of any adequate law for compulsory retirement has been a serious handicap to the efficiency of the army since its reorganization in 1869. Antiquated fossils have held on to their positions simply for their pay, owing to the impossibility of swelling the retired list above the number authorized by congress, while every department of the staff line has suffered from the compulsory retention of men who have outlived their usefulness.

The injustice of the present condition of affairs in the army is thrown in still stronger light by the benefits which have been found to accrue in the navy from compulsory retirement. There promotion is rapid.

The navy is, as a rule, manned by young, ambitious and effective officers, while the spur of certain promotion is held out as an inducement to redoubled efforts for the country's benefit. In the army, death and the good will of politicians have been the only hope entertained by officers for advance in the ranks, and gray haired captains and majors have for years held positions which ought to have been filled by their juniors. Statistics prove conclusively that the best service in every army in the world has been rendered by young men. In the army of the United States the positions of command are now, and have for years past been held by officers far past the prime, while younger men have been forced to hold subordinate commands, with little hope of promotion; the greatest inducement to a faithful performance of their official duties.

Mr. Butterworth's bill, which has been passed by the house, is approved by an overwhelming majority of the army itself. It provides for the compulsory retirement of every officer of the age of sixty-two, or who has passed forty years in the service of his country. To this rule there are no exceptions made. Generals Sherman and Sheridan are not excepted from its provisions; neither desires to be. Both recognize that the measure is essential to the good of the service, and are willing to fall under its provisions.

Under the bill, if passed by the senate and approved by the president, forty-two officers will be retired at once on three-quarters pay for the remainder of their lives. Within six years one hundred and twenty officers will be placed on the retired list and a

corresponding promotion will take place on both staffs and line.

Every regiment will be more or less affected. Major Generals McDowell and Pope will go, raising General Terry to the rank of a brigadier general. General Ingalls in the quartermasters department will be shelved, placing General Holabird at the head of that department. As General Sheridan is only 55 years of age, he will still have seven years to serve before affected by the provisions of the bill. In the commissary department General Wilson, now senior captain, will receive a majorship. General Crook will be advanced two files, and Lieutenant Colonel Royall, of the department of the Platte, will receive his colonelcy.

The senate will consult, not only the interests of the service, but the good of the country, by speedily passing the bill as it stands; and in justice to the army favorable action ought not long to be delayed.

THE CITY TREASURERSHIP.

The death of Samuel J. Mallette caused a vacancy in the office of city treasurer about four months ago. Mayor Boyd appointed Truman Buck to fill that vacancy, and Mr. Buck's appointment was confirmed by the city council. When this appointment was made it was given out that Mr. Buck was appointed to fill the entire unexpired term of the late city treasurer, who was elected for two years from the second Tuesday in April, 1881. There was a difference of opinion, however, as to the right of the mayor to appoint Mr. Buck for any period beyond the first annual city election. Acting upon this view, the republican city convention nominated George S. Doane for the vacant city treasurer'ship, and Wm. Sexauer was nominated by the workmen. The democrats made no nomination because Mr. Buck, the present incumbent, proposed to hold the fort against any contestant.

Sexauer received 1,623 votes, against 554 cast for Doane. It remains to be seen now whether Mr. Sexauer will be installed in the position to which he has been elected by such an overwhelming majority. We are informed that Mr. Buck will refuse to surrender his office on the advice of the city attorney, who is said to have given as his opinion that the mayor can fill the vacancy for the full unexpired term. With all due respect to the city attorney, we fail to find any such authority in the city charter. In fact the charter does not even confer authority upon the mayor to fill the vacancy for any period.

The only authority to appoint elective officers is contained in section 15, which empowers the mayor and city council to provide for filling such vacancies as may occur in the office of councilmen or other elective officers of the city, by calling special elections for that purpose. This clearly implies that all vacancies in elective offices shall be filled by special elections, unless they are filled at the regular annual election, as was done last Tuesday.

This version of the law is further confirmed by section 69, which gives the mayor power by and with the consent of a majority of the entire council to appoint all officers, "other" than those provided for in this act. In other words, the mayor can only fill vacancies of appointive, but not elective offices.

The only case where the charter authorizes the filling of a vacancy for the entire unexpired term is in section 87, which empowers the city council to remove a dishonest treasurer and appoint his successor.

In such case the council alone has authority to appoint a successor to the defaulting treasurer.

Mr. Mallette was not removed by the council on impeachment, and neither the council nor the mayor can, in our opinion, legally fill the vacancy except for the period intervening between Mallette's death and the election of his successor by the people. The mere fact that the mayor did not include the office of treasurer in his election proclamation, cannot bar Mr. Sexauer from his rightful claim. Suppose the mayor had forgotten or purposely refused to issue an election proclamation, should that bar the people from holding their annual city election. In this instance the mayor has omitted the position of treasurer from the election proclamation because he believed he had the right to fill the place for the full unexpired term, but the people saw fit to elect Mr. Sexauer city treasurer, and the courts always recognize the will of the sovereign people as above the individual appointing power, except where the laws expressly authorize such appointments.

We take no stock in the pretense that the people had no right to fill this vacancy except at the general city election when they elect their mayor, police judge and other city officers. The late election was in law just as valid as a general election as the general election held last year. All elections designated and required by law to be held at stated periods on a given day and date are general elections. The state elections held every other

year at which only judges of the supreme court and university regents are elected are general elections just as much as the elections at which the people elect their governor and other state officers.

The charter elections at which six councilmen and three members of the board of education are elected every other year can hardly be classed as special elections, and if they are not special elections, what are they?

We have no fault to find with Mr. Buck. He is a competent and reliable treasurer, but he has not seen fit to submit his claims to the people. Mr. Sexauer is their choice by a very decided majority, and the courts will hardly attempt to override the popular will when it has been so emphatically expressed through the ballot-box.

THE ASYLUM HORROR.

Burning of the Home for the Insane of Dakota.

Four Patients Known to Have Been Destroyed, and Two Missing.

Yankton Press.

The Sabbath day brought to Yankton a horror which will live in the memory of our people for all time to come. When the fire alarm was sounded yesterday afternoon, about 3 o'clock, the populace roused itself from its after dinner nap and stood in the doors and gazed forth to ascertain the cause of the clamor which had broken in upon its Sunday rest. No smoke was visible, no fire could be seen, and there was a general disposition to pass the affair by as a causeless alarm. But from out upon the prairie, two miles away, had come a messenger whose panting horses gave evidence of a hard drive over the dusty road, and the messenger's information was that the insane asylum was in flames. Then the excitement became intense, for it was known that the temporary wooden structure which was the home of the insane people of Dakota was crowded with patients, and that there was hardly a hope that all the unfortunates could be rescued. From the city could be seen the wooden structure enveloped in flames, and from the pyre ascended a black column of smoke which swayed to and fro in the gale and cast its ominous shadow like a funeral pall over the scene. There was hardly need of actual knowledge that

DEATH WAS BUST

in that lurid pile. All who saw it from a distance felt that many would be the victims, and the spectators turned their gaze from the doomed structure with a feeling that they did not care to learn the after details. The crowd which filled the several roads leading to the asylum did not reach it until the conflagration had accomplished its work, and there was little for them to do upon their arrival, except to stand around the smoking ruins and listen to the ghastly details of the fiery visitation. It was then learned that

FOUR UNFORTUNATES WERE BURNED and that two others were missing. The names of the dead and missing are:

Peter Peterson, of Fargo.

Oran Lynch, an idiotic boy from Elk Point.

Amos Iverson, of Yankton.

Joseph Haverly, of Deadwood.

L. J. Prindle, of Deadwood.

Frank Conlon, of Deadwood.

Of this list it is known that Peter Peterson, of Fargo, Oran Lynch, of Elk Point, and Amos Iverson are dead. There was one more victim, but it is not yet possible to determine whether it is Joseph Haverly or L. J. Prindle, both Deadwood patients.

Frank Conlon, of Deadwood, is known to have escaped and is at large, and as there were found only four bodies in the ruins it is concluded that either Haverly or Prindle also got away. It is the opinion of the asylum officers and employees that Prindle was the fortunate one and that Haverly is among the victims. The remains, with the exception of the body of Iverson, are charred beyond recognition.

THE PARTICULARS.

Mr. Heflen says that himself and his brother, Marion Heflen, who is his assistant, had the male patients—thirty-four in number—out on the lawn, where they had been engaged in a game of ball, a recreation in which the unfortunates take an active interest. After their hour of sport had ended, which was about three o'clock in the afternoon, the Heflens started to take the patients back to the ward, which was in the west wing of the building. Henry Heflen headed the procession and as he opened the door of the west wing he saw that the room was

FILLED WITH SMOKE.

He sprang up the narrow stairway to ascertain the cause, and as many as a dozen of the lunatics crowded closely behind him. As soon as he reached the head of the stairs Mr. Heflen discovered that the whole upper dormitory of the west wing was in flames overhead, the fire reaching clear across the room and lapping up the wooden interior with savage rapidity. He turned to descend and found the stairway below him blocked by the rush of excited maniacs who had followed him. He crowded them back down the stairs and out of doors, knocking some of them down and dragging them along with him in his descent. Mr. Heflen then ran the length of the ward below, unlocked the kitchen door and then passed around the back of the building and kicked in the back door. This opened all the avenues of escape from the male department. By this time the whole wing

WAS IN A FLAME.

Mr. Heflen's brother had left him to attend to a female employee who was imprisoned in her room, the others were all busy rescuing people and property from other parts of the building and he was alone in his efforts to prevent the males in his charge from rushing into the fire. There had been one decrepit patient, Mr. Mathews, of Deadwood, left in his room, and Mr. Heflen ran into the burning building

and dragged him out. By this time many of the

EXCITED LUNATICS were striving to get into the midst of the conflagration, though there were several cool-headed ones who gave valuable assistance in keeping their crazed associates from carrying out their designs. Michael Rogers, a Deadwood patient, threw himself into the blazing structure with mad frenzy, but Mr. Heflen followed him closely, seized him and carried him out with his hair, beard and clothing singed. As soon as this was accomplished Mr. Heflen heard the screams of another unfortunate and rushed in his direction, just in time to meet him coming through a sea of flame with his clothing all on fire. As he reached the outer air a pail of water was thrown upon him, but he fell dead upon the ground with his clothing and flesh ablaze—a sickening mass of half-roasted humanity. This was Amen Iverson, of Yankton. His body was dragged a few rods from the building and left upon the turf until the fire was over.

OTHER FORMS WERE SEEN

rushing hither and thither amid the flames and smoke and battling with wild frenzy with the terrible element whose deadly embrace they had sought. It was not possible to rescue them. Mr. Heflen made a final rush for a man who had thrown himself into the seething mass of destruction, and while endeavoring to reach him the roof of the west wing fell in and Mr. Heflen could only save himself by the most active movements. The man went down in the funeral pyre and his blackened remains are to-day lying where he fell—in the ashes of the asylum. There were two others near him in that charred heap, unrecognizable. Death was speedy and the crazed victims hardly knew any suffering. Mr. Heflen thinks it was not more than twenty-five minutes from the time he first discovered the flames until the roof fell in.

THE FEMALE WARD,

which contained nineteen patients when the fire broke out, was in the east wing, and farthest from the place where the fire originated. Dr. McGlumphy was just coming out of the new building, located several rods away, when the flames burst through the roof. He hastened to the rescue, and with Mrs. McGlumphy and the female and other employees, succeeded in getting all the patients out of this ward in good order. They also saved some of the bedding, the asylum books and papers and a few articles of furniture. In a room over the office was the laundress.

AMELIA DERKS, and her door was locked so that she could not escape. Marion Heflen hastened to her assistance, and to reach her room was compelled to crawl through the female ward close to the floor to secure breathing room. He burst open her door and assisted her through a window upon the roof, from which place she was rescued by means of a ladder. There are numerous instances of narrow escapes which cannot be gathered in the excitement which follows the disaster. All of the officers and employees about the asylum at the time of the fire labored with marvelous heroism and persistence to save life and property. That the list of casualties is so small is evidence that their endeavors were not in vain.

STATE JOTTINGS.

Wymore has five doctors.

A grist mill will be built at Oxford.

The new saw mill at Arapahoe is busy.

The busy burglar is plying his tools at Hastings.

Dawson county is gathering a large crop of prairie fires.

The Cedar county district court meets at St. Helena April 15th.

Prairie fires in Gosper county, last week, destroyed considerable property.

Judge Gavlin disposed of several notorious criminals at the last term of court at Sidney.

The roofing of a stable belonging to Mr. Arnold, living near Red Cloud, fell in the other day, killing two horses and one colt.

Within the last two weeks fifteen lots have been sold in Wakefield, with the agreement that buildings shall be erected on them this season.

Two Hall county farmers "pained off" a spavined mare on a horse trader in Grand Island, and proceeded to jubilate on their shrewdness. Two hours after they bought back the plug at an advance of \$25.

Talmage is a lightning town. During a late storm, a bolt struck a house and knocked one end out, without injuring the occupants. Another bolt set fire to a barn, destroying the building and contents.

Two horses and a cow were burned to death.

We had a small express package come to us from New York. The charges from that place to the U. P. depot in Council Bluffs were 47 cents, while from Council Bluffs here they were \$1.10. A series of such is enough to make anyone "anti-monopoly."—Rising City Independent.

Ira T. Hill, of Syracuse, concluded to take a rest on the lounge, and that too without removing from his hip pocket a little Gattling. The pistol fell to the floor and was followed by an explosion, the ball passing through the leg of his wife, who will no doubt be a cripple for the remainder of her days.

Jennie Maple, the Cass county maiden who attempted suicide with arsenic, is getting well. At first she refused to take either medicine or food, insisting on "pegging out" by the starvation route, but her doting parent struck the "tender chord" by promising her a \$10 Easter bonnet, a new dress, and the return of her lover, and she did eat.

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A friend in need is a friend indeed. This none can deny, especially when assistance is rendered when one is sorely afflicted with disease, more particularly those complaints and weaknesses so common to our female population. Every woman should know that Electric Bitters is woman's true friend, and will positively restore her to health, even when all other remedies fail. A single trial always proves our assertion. They are pleasant to the taste, and only cost fifty cents a bottle. Sold by Schrotter & Hecht.

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